

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, 8 and 14 are amended and Claim 15 is cancelled. Claims 1-8, 10, 12-14 and 16-22, as amended, remain in the application. No new matter is added by the amendments to the claims.

The Rejections:

In the Final Office Action dated November 5, 2008, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Mayle et al., US Pat. No. 6,542,936 B1.

The Examiner rejected Claims 14-22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mayle in view of Giordano et al., US Pat. App. Pub. No. US 2006/0178986 A1.

The Response:

Applicant amended Claim 14 to correct a typographical error.

Applicant amended Claims 1 and 14 to include the subject matter of cancelled Claim 15 wherein the input data includes a handwritten message of the sender. Regarding Claim 15, the Examiner stated that Mayle-Giordano teaches the apparatus wherein said input device includes means for inputting said message as a handwritten message of the sender (Mayle, col. 18, lines 10-29). Mayle does not include a column 18. Mayle accepts a user message in electronic form and converts it to script for display, but does not accept messages in the handwriting of the sender.

Applicant amended Claims 1 and 4 to recite providing a printed form for recording the sender input information as recited in amended Claim 8. The combination of Mayle-Giordano does not use a printed form to record the sender input information.

In view of the amendments to the claims and the above arguments, Applicant believes that the claims of record now define patentable subject matter over the art of record. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.